

THE
CITIZENS
OF
LONDON'S
Humble Petition

TO
The Right Honourable the Knights,
Citizens, and Burgeses of the Commons
House in PARLIAMENT.

Subscribed with the Names of above
twenty thousand, both Aldermen, Aldermens
Deputies, Merchants, Common Counsell men,
&c. Presented the 11. of Decem. 1641.
And accepted.

*With the manner of their going to the
Parliament House.*



THE
CITIZENS

LONDON

Humble Petition

The Right Honourable the Lords

Commons in Parliament assembled

Sheweth

Subscribed with the Names of above

twenty thousand freeholders

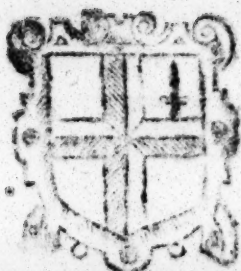
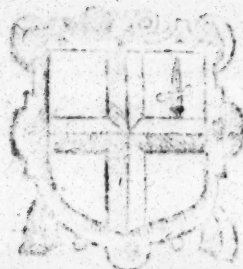
in the County of Middlesex

and City of London

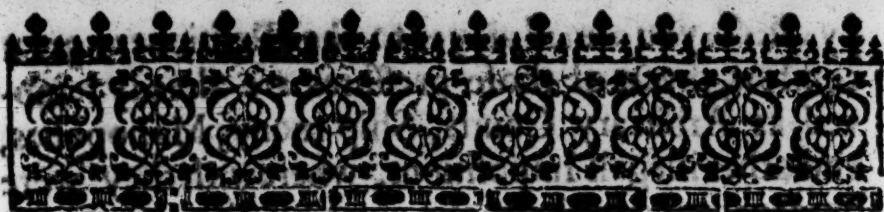
And sheweth

That the said petitioners

are of the County of Middlesex



Printed by J. B. Gutteridge



To the right Honourable the Knights,
Citizens and Burgeses of the Commons
House of Parliament.

*The humble Petition of the Aldermen, Aldermens
Deputies, Marchants, Common Councill men,
Subsidy men, and Citizens of London, of good
ranke and quality.*



Sheweth, that they with all hum-
ble thankfulness, acknowledge
that great labour & care which
this Honourable Assembly hath
undergone, now for the space
of one whole yeare, endeavour-
ing the reformation and remo-
vall of those many pressures and
grievances in the Church and Common-wealth, and
doe humbly present that gratefull acceptance and
high esteeme, which not onely the Petitioners, but al-
so all well affected to the honour of his Majesty, and
prosperity of this Kingdome, have of these your great
and unwearied endeavours, which although by reason
of the Popish Lords and Bishops, voting in the house
of Peeres, and other impediments (as they humbly
conceive) they have not hitherto produced those hap-
py

py effects you aimed at, yet to the Petitioners great comfort, divers of those pressures are already removed, as Arbitrary Courts, Ship money, Monopolies, and other illegall Impositions, wherewith they were burdened, and further hope given by the happy Act of the Parliaments continuance.

That notwithstanding all this, the Papists and their adherents, whose malice ceaseth not, have by many sundry secret and desperate plots, attempted the ruine and destruction of this State and kingdome; and however some of them have hitherto by Gods providence and your prudence, been discovered, and become abortive, yet the sad effects of others of them, are not onely felt, and much more feared in this Realme of England; but also have of late broken out into open rebellion in Ireland, where most barbarous, savage, cruell and inhumane actions are practised towards our brethren by nation and religion, whose lamentable and deplorable condition the Petitioners much piny and lament, and have just cause to feare, that as already there hath been much Christian blood spilt; so in short time, if speedy help be not sent, not onely the many great debts there owing to divers of the Petitioners, and others of this kingdome, will be wholly lost, but which is more, the very name of the English, and the Protestant Religion, will bee rooted out by those Rebels, the foundation of which Religion is written in letters of blood, doe onely oppose: and for that divers of the Petitioners receive daily information from all parts of this kingdome, of the bold and insolent carriage and threatening speeches of the Papists in this Realme, as the Petitioners humbly conceive, not only
for

for the prevailing of the rebels in *Ireland*, but also from the want of such secure & speedy course against Papists here, as the present condition of this kingdom requireth, and the honorable Assembly hath earnestly endeavoured, from which ground the Petitioners cannot omit to represent unto you the great terrors, feares, & distractions they lay under of a sudden surprize by their bloody hands, by meanes whereof the trading of the City and Kingdom is much more of late decayed then it hath beene for many yeares past, no man following his trade chearfully, whiles the lives of himselfe and family, and the publicke safety of the kingdom are in danger, and while hee knoweth not how soone they may feele the like cruelty and inhumanity from the Papists, and their adherents, as those in *Ireland* have done, which if ever it should happen in their malice and cruelty, against whom they have already by themselves and their abettors, endeavoured to raise a disrespect in the hearts of the people, to divide betweene the Kings Majesty and his Parliament, and seditiously to misconstrue the Citizens dutifull and loyall entertainment of his Majesty, to be a diserring of this Honourable Assembly, the least thought whereof the Petitioners do utterly detest and abhor: to the end therefore that the destructive plots of the Papists and their adherents may be defeated, the grounds of their hopes and insolencies removed, considerable forces with all expedition sent to subdue those abominable and bloody rebels in *Ireland*, this City and Kingdom, for prevention of the like mischief, and securing the peace thereof, put into a posture of defence, the Petitioners freed from their feares, encouraged in their trades, and

in due time receive such just answers to their former petitions, as shall seeme best to your great wisdomes,

It is humbly prayed that you will vouchsafe to be a means to the Kings Majesty and the house of Peeres, that life may be speedily given to your good endeavours, by their concurrence with you in the punishment of delinquents, and redressing the pteffures and grievances in Church and Commonwealth, amongst which the abuses crept into the ancient government of this City, they humbly desire may in due time bee taken into consideration; and for the better effecting hereof, that the Popish Lords and Bishops may be removed out of the house of Peeres, as was desired in the presence of divers of this Honourable Assembly, by the representative body of this City, when fifty thousand pounds was freely lent to raise forces for Ireland, the greatest part wherof was speedily brought in by the Petitioners.

And the Petitioners, who well know their owne safeties are wrapt up in yours, shall not faile to put up daily prayers to Almighty God for your good successe, and to maintaine and defend to the utmost hazard of their lives and estates, according to their late protestation, the Kings Majesty and high Court of Parliament, against all wicked Councillors, and malignant opposers, who endeavor either by secrete plots or open force to prejudice the one on the other, or to make divisions betweene his Majesty and the Parliament, whom God and the lawes of this land have united in so neare relation.

And we shall, as in duty bound, pray, &c.



A Relation in what manner the Petition was delivered the eleventh of
December. 1641.

SUBscribed with the names of above 20000. by Aldermen, Aldermens Deputies, Merchants, Common Councill men, and many others of great ranke and fashion, to the number of 400. who were selected to deliver the petition, all riding out of the Citie of *London* in 50 Coaches, or thereabouts, to the *Parliament House*. The House hearing of their coming, gave admittance to about an hundred of them, and did receive the petition. One of the Citizens did declare some interruption was given them by ill affected persons in *London*, about subscribing of hands, and so withdrew themselves. In the interim, the petition was read in the house: whereupon the petitioners were called againe, the house did accept of it thankfully; the honourable House gave order, that notice should be taken of such ill-affected persons, who should hinder, interrupt, discourage, or take any petition away from any his Majesties subjects, who should goe about to petition to reforme grievances, that strict order should bee taken with such persons, and immediately return their names to the High Court of *Parliament*.

FINIS.